



Multidimensional impact on tourism from President Xi's visit: P.2



## Grand reception for President Xi

Bhandari for Lumbini-Keyrung rail  Xi assures land-linked Nepal



President Bidya Devi Bhandari receiving her Chinese counterpart, President Xi Jinping, at the Tribhuvan International Airport, Kathmandu, Saturday.

(Photo: Shekhar Chaulagain/TRN)

By Modnath Dhakal  
Kathmandu, Oct. 12

President of the People's Republic of China Xi Jinping, who arrived in Kathmandu on Saturday evening on a two-day State visit, said Nepal and China had nothing but friendship.

"We have model friendship in the world, and there is no issue between the two countries but friendship," he said while speaking at the State Banquet organised by President Bidya Devi Bhandari in his honour at Soaltee Hotel.

President Xi said that he and his Nepali counterpart Bhandari had agreed to develop relations, friendship and partnership that would help in development and prosperity for many generations to come.

He assured that more reliable and easier connectivity facility between the two countries would be constructed in the near future.

Maintaining that China would expedite the development of Trans-Himalayan Multi-

"I am hopeful that there will be more cooperation between Nepal and China at multilateral platforms," he said.

According to Xi, Buddhism has become a local religion in China, and many Chinese want to visit Nepal and Lumbini, and in future there will be more religious exchanges.

He also said that China was ever ready to conserve Sagarmatha region and support Nepal's genuine demands regarding the issue of climate change.

President Xi announced a support of 3.5 billion RMB to be provided between 2020 to 2022 for uplifting the living standard of the Nepali people.

President Bhandari, in her welcome remarks, appreciated China for its support in Nepal's development efforts and cooperation at the international platforms.

"Nepal and China have been standing together and extending cooperation in multilateral platform for peace, stability and development," she said.

Geographically Nepal and China are

ambition to become a middle-income country by 2030, it needs more foreign investment. The country wants Chinese investment in the productive sectors like infrastructure, energy and tourism, she said.

"The government will assure security to the investment made in Nepal," President Bhandari said.

She also said that Nepal expected support of the Chinese government in Visit Nepal Year 2020, conserving mountain ecology and combating the impact of climate change.

She informed President Xi that the government was holding an international forum 'Sagarmatha Sambad' and said Nepal expected high-level participation from China.

Nepal is organising 'Sagarmatha Sambad' – an international dialogue, in March 2020, and the main agenda of the first summit would be climate change.

As the global warming has created alarming situation in the mountains and plains equally, and the country wants to draw the attention to the climate change impacts on Himalayas, environment and people, the first Sambad will be focused on the same theme.

President Bidya Devi Bhandari on Saturday welcomed her Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping upon his arrival at the Tribhuvan International Airport.

Vice-President Nanda Bahadur Pun, Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli, Chairman of the National Assembly Ganesh Prasad Timilsina, Deputy Prime Ministers, Minister for Foreign Affairs Pradeep Kumar Gyawali, ministers, head of the constitutional bodies and other high-level government officials accompanied President Bhandari to welcome Chinese President Xi at the Tribhuvan International Airport.

President Bhandari had also introduced the DPMs and ministers to her Chinese counterpart.

Later in the evening, the two presidents held a bilateral meeting at Sheetal Niwas and deliberated on the issues of bilateral concerns and Nepal-China relations.

During the bilateral meeting, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Home Minister, Foreign Affairs Minister, Women, Children and Senior Citizens Minister, Minister for Water Supply and high level officials of Nepal and Chinese governments were present.

Leader of the main opposition party Nepali Congress Sher Bahadur Deuba met President Xi at Soaltee Hotel.

President Bhandari organised a state banquet in Xi's honour where he and Chinese delegation were served with typical Nepali delicacies.

The Air China plane carrying him from Chennai, India, landed at the TIA at about 6 PM.

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President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China and Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli raising a toast at the dinner hosted by President Bidya Devi Bhandari in Kathmandu.

(Photo: Bikash Dware/TRN)

Dimensional Connectivity infrastructure, he said, "We want to support Nepal in realising its dream to become a land-linked country from the landlocked country."

He announced that China will provide support in conducting the feasibility study of Keyrung-Kathmandu railway, upgrading the Arniko Highway and constructing Keyrung-Kathmandu tunnel way.

President Xi expressed his commitment to further support in the post-quake reconstruction, promoting Visit Nepal Year 2020, support education sector and urban development in the country.

He is happy that the leadership of both the countries together made it possible to develop and implement a new framework of friendship and plans.


close friends while history and culture have helped in developing cordial relations, she said. "At this juncture, Nepal wants to express its commitment to taking the bilateral relations to a newer height."

She reiterated Nepal's commitment to 'One China Policy' and not allowing any force to use Nepali land against China.

President Bhandari said that the land of Lord Buddha expected Chinese support in developing Lumbini as a centre of world peace, and infrastructure improvement for cross-border connectivity.

"Nepali people want to see Rasuwagadhi-Kathmandu-Lumbini railway connectivity being happened," she said.


According to her, since Nepal's internal resources are not sufficient to meet the



**Warm Welcome to  
President of People's Republic of China Xi Jinping  
to Nepal!**

**We believe this historic visit will raise Nepal-China  
friendly relations to a new height.**

**热烈欢迎  
中华人民共和国主席习近平访问尼泊尔！  
相信这次具有历史意义的访问  
定将中尼友好关系提升到一个新的高度。**



**ARNIKO SOCIETY  
尼泊尔阿尼哥协会**



Boeing has taken the chairman title away from CEO Dennis Muilenburg as the aircraft maker continues to struggle with fallout from two deadly plane crashes, Friday.  
(Photo: AP)



# Minister Bhattarai hopeful of multidimensional impact on tourism from President Xi's visit

# More Chinese tourists visiting Lumbini

By Our Correspondent  
Bhairahawa, Oct. 12

**By CB Adhikari**  
Kathmandu, Oct. 12

Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Yogesh Kumar Bhattarai has expressed his hope that Chinese President Xi Jinping's state visit would have its multidimensional impact on the promotion of Nepal's tourism.

The Chinese President's visit in the context when the arrivals of Chinese tourists have increased yearly would encourage Chinese people to visit Nepal, leading a further rise in the arrivals.

In his exclusive talks with the Raastriya Samachar Samiti (RSS) in the context of the state visit of Chinese President, Minister Bhattarai noted that the visit by Chinese President after 23 years was obviously a golden opportunity for the promotion of Nepal's tourism.

He said the context was that any policy, programme and authority taken by China emerging as the world's strong economy and the super power nation had potential of affecting the world and it was really a matter of pride for Nepal and Nepali that we were welcoming the President from such nation.

Bhattarai said, "The contribution and role of China in the world's economy, strategic sector and world's tourism promotion has reached the decisive phase."

High level visits (by the Head of the State and Head of the Government) to China are being made on behalf of Nepal, but Nepal had been waiting for this level of visit since years; therefore, this

visit is historic moment for us, he said.

Describing tourism as a major pillar of Nepal's economy, Minister Bhattarai said the government had set a target of increasing the contribution of tourism to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) yearly. "At present, the contribution of tourism sector to GDP is just around three per cent. "

The Minister added that we expected to see the arrival of at least 500 thousand Chinese tourists during the Nepal Visit Year 2020 announced by the government and Xi's visit would obviously help to meet the expectation.

It may be noted the government has announced to celebrate the year 2020 as the Nepal Visit Year with an objective of welcoming two million tourists. For this, it is necessary to attract tourists from probable big tourism markets including China.

The tourist arrivals from China have been increasing each year. In 2018, 160 thousand Chinese people visited Nepal, and in the first eight months of the current year, around a 10 per cent rise has been recorded in the correspondent period last year.

Statistics show that the Chinese tourists are, especially, interested to visit Kathmandu, Pokhara, Chitwan, Lumbini among other destinations. Nepal is the birthplace of the Buddha. Buddha is highly revered in China. A majority of the Chinese population is Buddhist and it is expected that the number of Chinese tourists will also increase after President



Xi's visit, according to Minister Bhattarai.

He said adventure tourism is the most liked choice of the Chinese tourists of late and paragliding is the main attraction for them. More than 60 per cent of the tourists opting for paragliding business, which is mostly operated in Pokhara, comprises of Chinese visitors.

It is said the economic condition and the purchasing power of Chinese tourists is improving in recent years.

Another important aspect for tourism is easy 'connectivity' for the promotion of tourism. Chinese Airlines is operating direct flights to Nepal from various cities in China, including Kunming, Guangzhou, Lhasa, Chendu and

Sichuan. Himalaya Airlines has made preparations to operate flight from Beijing soon.

Similarly, as per the bilateral air agreement signed between Nepal and China some months back, air flights would be operated from 15 additional Chinese cities to Nepal. Accordingly, Nepal Airlines, the national flag-carrier, has also made preparations to start flights to Guangzhou and Beijing. This is also expected to increase the number of Chinese visitors to Nepal.

Tourism Minister Bhattarai said various statistics show that some 150 million Chinese citizens go to visit various places around the world annually and it would be significant if only a small proportion of this could be brought

to Nepal by developing it as an important tourism destination for them.

He mentioned that Chinese side has been providing significant support in the area of civil aviation as well. A Chinese contractor company is constructing the Gautam Buddha International Airport in Bhairahawa. This airport is in the final stages of construction.

Similarly, Chinese company has been given the responsibility of constructing the Pokhara Regional International Airport. A Chinese contractor company is involved in improving and expansion of the Tribhuvan International Airport.

The contribution of Chinese is also notable in the post-earthquake reconstruction of cultural heritages in Nepal. The Durbar High School, the Basantapur Nine-storey Palace and the Taleju Temple in Kathmandu and the Seven-storey Palace in Nuwakot are being reconstructed with Chinese support.

"It is found that tourist flow has increased in places which are visited by the Head-of-State or of Government. The number of Indian visitors has increased at Muktinath, Janakpurdham and Pashupatinath after Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited these pilgrimage sites. We expect the number of Chinese tourists to reach more than 500 thousand annually from the present number after the visit of Chinese President. This visit will have multi-dimensional impact in the promotion of tourism in Nepal," Minister Bhattarai argued.

The number of the Chinese tourists visiting Lumbini, the birthplace of Lord Buddha, has been increasing continuously for the last two decades.

The number of Chinese tourists visiting Lumbini has reached 18,640 in 2018 while only 266 Chinese tourists had visited Lumbini in 2000, said Haridhoj Rai, information officer at the Lumbini Development Trust (LDT).

Out of total foreign tourists visiting Lumbini, the highest number of tourists is from Sri Lanka followed by those from Thailand.

Chinese tourists rank third in terms of their number visiting Lumbini.

Growing number of Chinese tourists visiting Lumbini is likely to take the place of the Japanese tourists visiting the holy place in the 1990s.

In 1994, about 6,500 Japanese tourists had visited Lumbini while only 164 Chinese tourists had reached Lumbini then.

Flow of the Japanese tourists in Lumbini reached 8,247 in 1998 while only 160 Chinese tourists visited the place that year.

The flow of Chinese tourists visiting Lumbini saw an increase by 33 per cent in 2014 compared to their number in 2013.

Around 20,718 Chinese tourists visited Lumbini in 2014 against 13,561 in 2013, said Saroj Bhattarai, acting member secretary at the Lumbini Development Trust.

However, following the devastating earthquake of 2015, the flow of Chinese tourists declined significantly.

Only 12,161 Chinese visited Lumbini in 2015 and 14,890 in 2016. Their number increased to 15,770 in 2017.

The arrival of Chinese tourists by land has decreased after the closure of the Tatopani border following the 2015 earthquake.

Tourism entrepreneurs said that the increasing number of Chinese tourists was a positive sign for the growth of tourism and overall economy of the country as the stay of Chinese tourists is longer compared to the tourists arriving in Lumbini from Sri-Lanka and Thailand.

Mithun Man Shrestha, former president of the Lumbini Hotel and Restaurant Association, said that the government and concerned authorities should focus on promoting and publishing Lumbini to bring in more Chinese tourists in the days to come.

With the improved purchasing power of the Chinese people and their desire to travel around the world as well as increasing number of Buddhist followers in China, more Chinese tourists are now visiting Lumbini, said Chetan Pant, who has been promoting Lumbini worldwide.

It is expected that more Chinese tourists will visit Lumbini in the future as the Chinese Company that is now constructing the Gautam Buddha International Airport will also help make Lumbini popular among the Chinese people.

# ADB's Nepal CPS to focus on three priority areas

# China, US achieve progress in new round of trade talks

By A Staff Reporter  
Kathmandu, Oct. 12

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has released a new 5-year Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) for Nepal with commitment to help the country achieve its goal for a stronger and more inclusive economy.

The Nepal CPS for 2020–2024, endorsed by ADB's Board of Directors on Friday, will focus on three priority areas: improved infrastructure for private sector-led growth, improved access to devolved services, and environmental sustainability and resilience.

Under the new strategy, ADB expects to lend an estimated \$500 million to

\$600 million on average during 2020–2022.

"With the political stability and the federal system of governance in place, Nepal is poised to bring about the desired economic and social transformation," said ADB Country Director for Nepal Mr. Mukhtor Khamudkhanov.

According to him, the new CPS is aligned with the government's plan of achieving higher economic growth, reducing poverty, and improving people's lives.

"Nepal has seen reduced poverty and raised literacy levels in the last decade. Now, moving forward,

smooth implementation of federalism, investments in critical physical infrastructure, and creating an environment for private sector investments are critical to further boost growth

and reduce poverty," said Khamudkhanov.

Under the new CPS, ADB will support hydropower development and renewable energy, roads and air transport, logistics, and trade facilitation to strengthen domestic, regional, and international connectivity; reduce the costs of production and trade for businesses; and attract private investment.

The CPS will help support development of cities and urban municipalities, quality education and employment-oriented skills development, and increased agriculture productivity

and commercialization to augment rural incomes. These will be targeted to benefit women and disadvantaged social groups, said the multilateral donor.

In all its development programs and projects, ADB will continue to prioritize gender equality and social inclusion, as well as disaster resilience and environmental sustainability.

"ADB will assist with policy reforms for devolved service delivery, including subnational public financial management; and sector reforms in agriculture, air transport, and water supply. Knowledge and development of institutional capacity, especially at subnational levels, will be emphasized," said the bank.

Xinhua  
Washington, Oct. 12

China and the United States achieved substantial progress in multiple areas after holding a new round of high-level economic and trade consultations on Thursday and Friday in Washington.

Under the guidance of the important consensus reached between the heads of state of the two countries, the two negotiation teams conducted candid, efficient and constructive discussions on economic and trade issues of mutual concern.

The two sides achieved substantial progress in areas including agriculture, intellectual property rights protection, exchange rate, financial services, expansion of trade cooperation, technology transfer and dispute settlement.

The two sides also discussed the arrangement for future consultations, and agreed to make joint efforts toward eventually reaching an agreement.

The Chinese delegation was led by

Chinese Vice Premier Liu He, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chief of the Chinese side of the China-U.S. comprehensive economic dialogue. The U.S. team was headed by U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin.

Also participating in the negotiation were Chinese Minister of Commerce Zhong Shan, Governor of the People's Bank of China Yi Gang, Vice Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission Ning Jizhe, Deputy Director of the Office of the Central Commission for Financial and Economic Affairs and Vice Finance Minister Liao Min, Vice Foreign Minister Zheng Zuguang, Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology Wang Zhijun, Deputy Director of the Office of the Central Agricultural Work Leading Group and Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Han Jun, and Vice Minister of Commerce and Deputy China International Trade Representative Wang Shouwen.



# Xiaomi's success in India, showcase of closer China-India ties

Xinhua  
Beijing, Oct. 12

When Xiaomi entered the Indian market in 2014, Lei Jun, founder and chairman of the Beijing-headquartered tech giant, didn't expect that his company would leapfrog to India's top-selling smartphone brand after only three years.

In the third quarter of 2017, Xiaomi became the leader in India's smartphone market and has remained in the pole position for eight consecutive quarters. In the second quarter this year, the company registered a smartphone shipment of 10.3 million units in India, accounting for 31 per cent of the market share, according to Canalys, a global tech industry analysis firm.

Lei told Xinhua in a recent interview that when he visited India at the beginning of 2017, he expected Xiaomi to lead the Indian smartphone market in three to five years.

The target, however, has been realised

well ahead of his schedule with Xiaomi's robust performance in India.

On Oct. 5 this year, Xiaomi India announced that it sold 5.3 million devices during the festival of Diwali, including more than 3.8 million smartphones. So far, the company has set up about 2,000 Mi stores and seven factories across India, creating over 20,000 jobs in the country.

Nawnit Kumar, an Indian student studying at China's Tsinghua University, called himself a Mi fan and told Xinhua that many people in India would line up to buy Xiaomi smartphones when new models were unveiled.

Xiaomi is one of the Chinese enterprises who have tapped into India's booming, lucrative smartphone market.

While Xiaomi and Samsung were the two best-selling smartphone brands in India in the second quarter this year, Chinese counterparts Vivo, Oppo and Realme rounded out the top five, according to Canalys.

# Companies hail US-China trade truce

AP  
Beijing, Oct. 12

Companies have welcomed a U.S.-China trade truce as a possible step toward breaking a deadlock in a 15-month-old tariff row, while economists caution there was little progress toward settling core disputes including technology that threatens global growth.

President Donald Trump said Washington will suspend a tariff hike planned for Tuesday on \$250 billion of Chinese goods. In exchange, Trump said China agreed to buy as much as \$50 billion of American farm goods. Details of other possible agreements weren't immediately released.

The bruising battle over China's trade surplus and technology ambitions has disrupted global trade. Economists warn a final settlement might take years

to negotiate. Despite that, financial markets rise ahead of each round of talks and fall back when no progress is reported.

Companies acknowledged Friday's agreement was a modest step and appealed to both governments to step up efforts to end the fight that is battering manufacturers and farmers.

"Taking tariffs out of the equation for at least the next two months will give space for substantive negotiations," said Jake Parker, senior vice president of the U.S.-China Business Council, an industry group.

Trump said Friday's deal has yet to be put down on paper but said, "We should be able to get that done over the next four weeks."

China's government welcomed "substantial progress" but gave no details of possible agreements.

"I don't think it's a victory,

but it eases the situation," said economist Yu Chunhai at Renmin University in Beijing. He said both sides want to restore business and consumer confidence.

There was no word of agreements on the core issues that sparked the dispute. Those include U.S. pressure on Beijing to roll back plans for government-led creation of global competitors in robotics, electric cars and other technologies.

Washington, Europe, Japan and other trading partners say China's plans violate its market-opening obligations and are based on stealing or pressuring companies to hand over technology. Chinese leaders see those tactics as the surest path to prosperity and global influence.

"With the key structural issues no closer to being resolved, we suspect that a mini deal would, at best, simply delay a breakdown

in the negotiations," said Julian Evans-Pritchard and Martin Lyngse Rasmussen of Capital Economics.

Friday's announcement also made no mention of commitments by Beijing in sensitive areas including subsidies to industry and cyber security, or the status of telecom equipment giant Huawei, which faces damaging U.S. sanctions.

"The two sides will now return to a 'muddle through' strategy that avoids further tariff escalation but may not substantially reduce tensions," Michael Hirson and Kelsey Broderick of Eurasia Group wrote in a report. "Both the U.S. and China are likely to continue targeting each other through non-tariff measures, such as investment restrictions and regulatory barriers, which will be highly disruptive."

Tit-for-tat tariff hikes by both sides have raised costs for producers and consumers.







Portraits of President Bidya Devi Bhandari and visiting President of the People's Republic of China Xi Jinping and flags of Nepal and China are seen at a road in Kathmandu, Saturday.

(Photo: Rajendra/TRN)

# Nepal-China Park being developed in 1600 hectares in Damak

By Our Correspondent  
Damak, Oct. 12

Chinese President Xi Jinping's state visit to Nepal beginning from Saturday is expected to add a new dimension to Nepal's development and take Nepal-China relationship to a newer height, said chairman of the Nepal-China Friendship Industrial Park, Govinda Thapa.

The Park is being constructed in a large Chinese investment.

Talking to The Rising Nepal, Thapa expressed hope that the visit would be historical for the sake of Nepal's prosperity and development.

"I have found the people of the area, where the Park is being constructed, more excited," he said. The construction of this Park will further strengthen the age-old Nepal-China friendship, he added.

Nepal has a lot to learn from China, which is now leading the global

development, and that this visit was one that had also received very high importance from the peoples' level as well, he said adding, "I have found that Nepali people are confident that this visit will give a shape to some of the unlimited possibilities, and this park can possibly be featured as a subject in the discussion."

Issuing a press statement on behalf of the Park, Thapa on Friday expressed hope that President Xi's visit to Nepal

would be very fruitful.

The Nepal-China Park is being developed in 1600 hectares of land in Damak Municipality, Kamal Rural Municipality and Gauradaha Municipality of Jhapa.

An agreement to kick start the Park's work was reached in Kathmandu a week ago.

According to the agreement, on the first stage, the Chinese government will invest 586 million US Dollars in the park.

# Rural Municipality announces protest against Koshi Tappu Reserve

By Jaya Krishna Yadav  
Inaruwa, Oct. 12

A local level in Sunsari district has announced to launch a protest programme against the Koshi Tappu Reserve stating that wild animals from the reserve were killing and maiming an increasing number of people in recent years.

Koshi Rural Municipality of Sunsari has announced the protest under the leadership of its chairman Yaiub Ansari.

"As more people started seeking support from us for their protection from the wild animals, I am leading the

compelled to announce such a protest against the Koshi Tappu Reserve.

Organising a press meet, Ansari said that their protest was against Reserve chief Ramdev Chaudhary and the Reserve administration as they were not paying attention to control the movements of animals outside the reserve.

"Animals from the reserve enter the human settlements, kill and injure people and cause damages to our property, but the reserve administration often dillydallies to provide compensation and even treatment expenses to the victims," he said

vehicular movements along the East-West Highway.

Local leaders of the ruling Nepal Communist Party have

that 12 of his bones were fractured.

After the attack, the angry locals obstructed the

**The protest programmes include picketing the main office of the reserve, and if their demands were not addressed they would resort to padlocking of the main office and obstructing the vehicular movements along the East-West Highway.**

also expressed their solidarity with the protest programme of the rural municipality.

They have demanded safety of the people from the animals and full implementation of the directives relating to compensation to the victims of animal attacks.

Meanwhile, Surendra Yadav, 40, of Ward No 4 of Koshi Rural Municipality was seriously injured an elephant called Makune attacked him Friday night.

He was rescued by the Area Police Office Laukahi and sent to Biratnagar for treatment. But the Biratnagar-based Neuron Hospital referred Yadav to BP Koirala Health Sciences after an x-ray report showed

vehicular movements along the Koshi Barrage section of the East-West Highway demanding that the Koshi Tappu Reserve should control the wild animals.

The elephant was later sent back to the reserve by the police and locals.

Locals said that 17 people lost their lives in the animal attacks in two years.

All ward chairs and elected representatives and the locals of all eight wards of the rural municipality took to the street against the reserve obstructing the traffic for a while.

However, police managed to resume vehicular movement within a few minutes.

protest against the reserve," said chair Ansari

He said that after the wild animals killed and injured dozens people of Ward Nos 3 and 4 of the rural municipality, he was

The protest programmes include picketing the main office of the reserve, and if their demands were not addressed they would resort to padlocking of the main office and obstructing the

## NC's tea reception today

By A Staff Reporter  
Kathmandu, Oct. 12

Nepali Congress is scheduled to hold its tea reception on Sunday on the occasion of the festivals of Dashain, Tihar, Chhat and Nepal Sambat.

The party has started hosting the tea reception on Kojagrat Purnima, the last day of Dashain festival, since 1977. BP Koirala had first organised the tea reception in the name of National Reconciliation after he returned home after an exile in India.

NC spokesperson Bishwa Prakash Sharma on Saturday informed that the party invited the President, Vice-president, the Prime Minister, former prime ministers, and ministers, lawmakers, leaders of all political parties, party workers, diplomats and professionals in the function.

He said the tea reception being held at the party's central office Sanepa of Lalitpur was for three districts-Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur and the party's district committee would hold similar tea reception in the remaining 74 districts simultaneously. In districts, the reception will be held in the district headquarters. The party is scheduled to hold the tea reception from 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm on Sunday.

Sharma informed that the party was planning to broadcast the tea reception function via face-book page live. The party is also organising blood donation programme in the sideline of the tea reception.

## Army captain donates blood, saves pregnant woman

By Our Correspondent  
Sarlahi, Oct. 12

Nepal Army's Captain has saved a pregnant woman by donating blood.

Life of Manjudevi Yadav, 22, a local of Mangalpur, Dhanusha Municipality-2, in Dhanusha district, was saved with the help of blood donated by Captain Chandra Dev Shrestha, a resident of Pattharkot, Lalbandi Municipality-13, in Sarlahi district and currently deployed at Nepal Army's Number 27 Bahini Base in Siraha district.

Yadav was hospitalised at the Zonal Hospital Janakpur after experiencing delivery pain on October 9.

Immediately upon being admitted to the hospital, doctors had indicated Yadav to have anemia, however, due to lack of blood at the Zonal Hospital, Manju Devi was then taken to Godawari Hospital and thereafter was transferred to Sharma Hospital and Research Centre also located in Janakpur.

The 'A- (A negative)' blood required for Yadav was not found despite taking her to three hospitals. After not finding the required blood in the hospitals, the frustrated families of Yadav then started searching for blood at Nepal Red Cross offices in Dhanusha and Siraha districts.

Meanwhile, the Red Cross record showed that Captain Shrestha's blood matched the much needed A- blood group. Shrestha was then immediately contacted and he was ready to donate blood to help Yadav.

Captain Shrestha donated blood on Friday night, receiving approval from the Number 27 Base's Commander, via the Lahan-based Red Cross, to Yadav.

After receiving the blood, both the mother and her child were saved and the families were elated and thankful to Shrestha.

Yadav is currently undergoing treatment at Janakpurdham-based Sharma Hospital and Research Center.

## Ex-Minister helps Rs 50,000 for treatment of bus injured

RSS  
Kathmandu, Oct. 12

Former Minister and Nepali Congress leader Mohan Basnet has supported Rs 50,000 for the treatment of injured in the Sindhupalchok bus accident.

Kathmandu-bound passenger bus (Ba 2 Kha

2715) belonging to Helambu Yatayat on Friday skidded off the road and fell around 200 meters at Badahare of Bhotipsa in Indrawati rural municipality-12, Sindhupalchok killing over a dozen and injuring over 50 passengers.

Leader Basnet reached Kathmandu based

Trauma Centre where injured are undergoing treatment and provided the amount to assist for the treatment.

The former Minister has further committed to managing the school level education of the children who have lost their parents in the accident.



Security personnel guarding a road in the Capital for the VVIP security on Saturday.

(Photo: Rajendra/TRN)



**Kamdhenu Dairy Development Co-operative Ltd. (KDDC)**  
**Itahari – 20, Tarahara, Sunsari**  
**Invitation For Bids**  
**IFB No.: KDDC/ICB 02/ 076/77**  
**(Date of publication: 13 October, 2019)**

The Kamadhenu Dairy Development Cooperative Ltd. has received a Grant support from the Government of Nepal, Ministry of Poverty Alleviation & Cooperative, Cooperative Department, Kathmandu, to build the new Milk Process Plant Project of 5 KLPH capacity in Itahari, Sub-Metropolitan City Ward no. 01.

1. The Kamdhenu Dairy Development Co-operative Ltd. (KDDC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the procurement of following goods **under International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures.**

| Description of work & contract Nos.  | Bid Document Fee (NRs) | Bid Security Amount (NRs) | Bid Security Validity period | Last Date of bid document purchase        | Last date & time of Submission           | Pre-Bid Meeting                          |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Supply, Delivery, Installation & Commissioning of Additional Machinery Equipment for Existing Process Plant. <b>Contract No. KDDC/ICB/G/02/2076/77</b> | 5,000/-                | 750,000/-                 | 120 days                     | 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov., 2019, Office Hours | 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov., 2019, 12:00 Hours | 11 <sup>th</sup> Nov., 2019, 13:00 Hours |

2. Eligible Bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents at the main office of KDDC, Itahari - 20, Tarahara, Sunsari, Nepal, E-mail : Kamdhenu.tender@gmail.com, Telephone: +977-25-475986

3. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by eligible Bidders from KDDC main office within office hours by cash or the cash should be deposited in Kamdhenu Dairy Development Co-operative Ltd. **current account no. 0550030808400012 at NMB Bank Ltd., Tarahara Branch, Nepal**

4. Bidders can purchase the bid documents electronically by depositing the above mentioned price in the above mentioned Bank account of KDDC and emailing the scanned copy (PDF format) along with request letter by clearly mentioning the name of bidder to Mail Address: **Kamdhenu.tender@gmail.com** (also for further clarifications).

5. Sealed Bids must be submitted to the above office of KDDC, by hand or courier above mention date & time. Documents received after this deadline shall not be accepted.

6. Bids shall be opened in the presence of Bidders or authorized representative & representative of concern department of KDDC at 14:00 hours on 26<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2019 at the office of the KDDC Itahari-20, Tarahara, Sunsari. However, opening of bids will not be withheld even if bidders or their representatives remain absent at the schedule time & no complain will be entertained.

7. If the specified date of pre-bid meeting, last date of bid documents purchasing and submission opening falls on Government holiday then the same time on the next working day shall be considered for such events. However, the last date of bid submission and opening shall be the next working day after the last date of bid purchasing. In such case the validity of bid security shall be considered from already specified last date of bid submission.

8. KDDC reserves the right to accept or reject, wholly or partly any or all the bids without assigning any reason, whatsoever.



EDITORIAL

Connectivity Key Agenda

CHINESE President Xi Jinping has stayed the night in Kathmandu Saturday on his first day of Nepal visit. He is bracing for delegation level talks with Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli Sunday morning. His meeting with Nepali counterpart, President Bidya Devi Bhandari, Saturday evening covered a wide-gamut of bilateral issues. It was cordial and instrumental in carrying forward the mutual bond. The two leaders had a fruitful meeting during the second Belt and Road Forum in Beijing this year. In a similar manner, President Xi held meetings with main opposition, Nepali Congress president Sher Bahadur Deuba in an indication that the Chinese government wants to get engaged with all constitutional forces irrespective of their ideological orientation.

The two sides are expected to develop consensus on the core components of bilateral relations and ink accords having broader implications for boosting trade, investment and mutual understanding. In his article published in this daily the other day, the Chinese President has outlined four priority cooperation areas -- trade and investment, post-disaster reconstruction, energy and tourism. At the heart of the cooperation lie greater efforts to develop a Multi-dimensional Connectivity Network across the Himalayas. According to the news report of this daily, Nepal and China will basically focus on the connectivity issue when the highest political leaderships sit for negotiations. The lack of modern connectivity infrastructures such as road, railway and transmission lines have posed big obstacles to the smooth and unhindered movements of people and goods between the two nations. The mighty Himalayas straddle both the nations. They serve as the natural borderlines as well as a symbol of friendship and fraternity between the two nations. Yet, the tall and tricky snowy mountains have hindered the desired level of bilateral trade and other physical interactions.

According to the news report, the delegation level meeting will deliberate on Kerung-Kathmandu Railway, Kimathanka-Leguwa, Korala-Palpa and Hilsa-Surkhet road with border development, Chhahare-Tokha tunnel, up-gradation of the Arniko Highway, hydroelectricity development, cross-border fibre optics connectivity and establishment of Madan Bhandari Science and Technology University. These projects fall under the framework of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), a signature development drive of President Xi. As an active BRI participant, Nepal expects generous Chinese support to implement these schemes.

The construction of cross-border railway and opening of other vital entry points will greatly improve the bilateral connections and augment trade, investment and tourism. The Kerung-Kathmandu railway carries wider economic and geopolitical implications. It is expected to play a vital role to bring South Asia and China closer. It will support Nepal to end excessive dependency on the southern neighbour and achieve economic sovereignty. Nepal signed trade and transport and other deals with China in 2016 but these agreements are unlikely to gain ground until Nepal has robust connectivity with China. Likewise, Nepal needs competitive Chinese technical and technological expertise in building roads, railways, tunnels and hydroelectricity plants. Nepal has also urged the Chinese side to allow more Nepali products that have competitive and comparative advantage in the Chinese markets in order to reduce soaring trade deficit with the latter. In view of Visit Nepal Year 2020, it is natural for Nepal to anticipate more Chinese tourists to make the upcoming national tourism campaign a success.

True Friendship

Chandra Kumar Phuyal

As time passes, a large number of friends come into our lives. Some of them stay on being an eye-ball having great influence on our lives, whereas many of them move on with little notice and some of them go away leaving a bad lesson or memory.

Indeed, friendship is a pious bond among people. It moves ahead during all types of weather. It is a soul dwelling in two or more than two bodies and the sweetest joy of life. A true friend could be a miraculous key to achieving your coveted goal, a company to walk through an awkward path of life and a person sharing his heart and mind during both tears and smiles. But, having a true friendship today is a chance, almost impossible.

There are enough friends who readily stand by your side when you are going through a fair weather with sufficient money, power and property. They come to you, respect you and appreciate and support you even when there are mistakes on your part. You will have more and more of them surrounding you; the number keeps growing even at your reluctance. But, when your pocket is empty, have no power and property and only troubles around you, the so-called fair-weather friends slowly keep themselves at bay and remain unavailable when you are badly in need of them. One who sticks on until the last moment continuously fighting for you is indeed a true friend, that are few and far between. True friend is very rare priceless gift that is always there with you sacrificing and dedicating for your sake. They

always play a safe, positive and inspiring role by helping you in your constructive steps.

Today, in disguise of friends, many people come to join your hands. There would usually be a vested interest behind their acts. They are always looking for opportunities to take advantage from fair and honest friends. They use you as their tool to succeed and once their mission is accomplished, they delete you from their memory. They don't even bother to push you into Pandora's Box in which they are already trapped for a leverage to take themselves out. These people are a stain in the name of friends and should immediately be chucked out of your path or else the fair and honest friend is the one who gets betrayed most of the time at the hands of their so-called friends.

Of course, life isn't always smooth; it is full of ups and downs and sorrow and happiness come in turn. To confide and share our heart, we need a true friend who is always willing to heal us. So, you should always be aware of this while tying the knot of friendship, so that you will not fall prey to fake ones.

As it is true that 'you are known by the friends you keep', you should choose the right and true friends to keep displaying your positive identity. Even though it is really hard to distinguish true friends from fake ones, it is truly essential to do so that you will not lose your true friends and you can also protect yourself from falling into the bunker the fake friends lay on your path. So, being always true to your friends, you can also nurture and retain true friendship to make your life beautiful forever.



Zhou Yuhua

CHINA and Nepal are friendly neighbours linked by mountains and rivers. The two nations have maintained close high-level exchanges, constantly consolidated political mutual trust, deepened and expanded pragmatic cooperation between them under the framework of the "Belt and Road", strengthened interconnection and interoperability, coordinated closely on international and regional issues. They have also promoted the sustained development through generation-friendly comprehensive cooperative partnership. President of the People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping, has landed in Nepal Saturday to pay a State visit.

Boost governing ability

On Xi Jinping's visit to Nepal, combining with my understanding of Nepal, Nepal's ruling party could learn from China's experience, focus on strengthening the party's construction and enhance its capacity to govern. The reason why the Chinese Communist Party has

maintained its strong vitality for a long time lies in its persistent innovation, seeking truth from facts and arming itself with the theoretical ideas of advancing with the times. Nepal's ruling party could learn from neighbouring China, and it is especially necessary to learn from the thoughts and wisdom of Xi Jinping about governing the country.

As the ruling party, the Communist Party of China is leading the Chinese people to realise the dream of great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation through the road of socialism with Chinese characteristics. After a long revolutionary struggle, reform and opening up, and economic transformation, China is moving towards a new era of brilliant development. This is a country with a large population, complex terrain and many nationalities. In just a few decades, the CPC has led the people of all nationalities across the country to make such astonishing achievements, which are very rare in the world. Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the income of the Chinese people has been increasing, the

living standard has been improving, and the sense of happiness has been rising.

In recent years, China's economy has maintained rapid growth in the midst of a world economic downturn. China's

alleviation and the construction of the "Belt and Road". Through economic reforms, China has integrated itself into the global market and helped hundreds of millions of people out of poverty. The proportion of the world's extreme poverty population has declined dramatically, most of which is contributed by China.

As a relatively neighbouring country, Nepal could learn from China in economic development. The Chinese government has solidly promoted the construction of the "Belt and Road" and has deepened exchanges and cooperation in the fields of economy, education, culture and tourism with relevant countries such as Nepal. China is also actively participating in the construction of the global governance system, contributing China's wisdom and taking the path of peaceful development.

Under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping as its core, China's achievements in all aspects are historic and extraordinary.

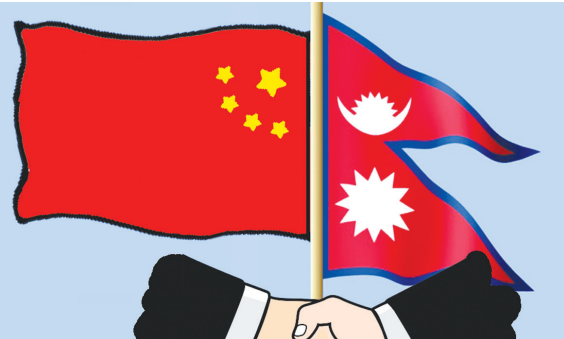
After the 19th National

Congress, under the leadership of the CPC, China will make even more brilliant and great accomplishments and achieve its 100-year goals. Since the founding of New China, the country has greatly helped Nepal and promoted its prosperity and development. After Nepal's devastating earthquake in 2015, the Chinese government offered timely help and won wide praise from all walks of life in Nepal.

Dream

"In order to build a community of human destiny, we should persevere in our efforts. We should not give up our dreams because of the complexity of reality, nor give up our pursuits because of the distant ideal," said President Xi Jinping. He declared that the Chinese Communist Party was willing to work together with people from all over the world to build a community of human destiny and work together to build a better world. President Xi's visit to Nepal will definitely point out the direction for promoting China-Nepal friendship, strengthening political exchanges between the two countries, and effectively promoting bilateral economic and trade cooperation.

(Zhou is a professor associated with Key Research Foundation of Philosophy and Social Sciences at Xizang Minzu University, China)



The Chinese government has solidly promoted the construction of the "Belt and Road" and has deepened exchanges and cooperation in the fields of economy, education, culture and tourism with relevant countries such as Nepal.

development has a positive impact on the weak global economy Countries around the world, including Nepal, will benefit from China's development. China has made positive achievements in poverty

Epidemiology Of Cancer



Prof. Dr. Shyam P Lohani

HUMAN body has trillions of cells with specific functions and fixed lifespan. It is a natural phenomenon that old cells die and get replaced by new ones. This process is called 'apoptosis'. Every cell gets instructions to die after their lifespan and the body will replace the old cells with the new ones which function better. However, even when a cell lacks such instructions, the cell division process continues. Such cells are called cancerous cells that rapidly grow utilising nutrients and oxygen which otherwise nourish other cells. Those cancerous cells can form tumors, impair the immune system and can cause other changes that prevent the body to function normally. There are more than 200 different types of cancer that may occur in almost every part of the human body. All of them are potentially life-threatening. The cases of cancer are increasing rapidly throughout the world due to an unhealthy lifestyle and other environmental factors.

Global trend

Around 9.6 million people died due to cancer in 2018. This is the second leading cause of death worldwide. The disease is projected to increase by 70 per cent to 13.1 million annually by 2030. Globally, about 17 per cent of all deaths are attributed to cancer (WHO, 2018). Out of total deaths due to cancer, about 70 per cent occur in low and middle-income countries.

In Nepal, around 7.7 per cent of the total

deaths were attributed to cancer in 2012 (WHO, 2014). The most common cancers that kill people worldwide are lungs, breast, colorectal, prostate, skin cancer (non-melanoma), and stomach. In Nepal, lungs, cervix, breast, and stomach cancers are most common. Most cancers form tumors but all tumors are not cancerous. Benign type of tumors does not spread to other parts of the body and do not cause new tumors. However, malignant tumors spread through lymph or blood to other parts of the body and form tumors.

There are many risk factors, which are associated with an increased incidence of cancer. These modifiable or avoidable risk factors are due to the use of cigarettes or smokeless tobacco, being obese or overweight, insufficient physical activities, unhealthy diets which include fewer vegetables and fruits and indoor air pollution.

The harmful use of alcohol, urban air pollution, infection by Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and hepatitis, ionising and ultraviolet radiation are other risk factors which are either avoidable or modifiable.

The harmful use of alcohol, urban air pollution, infection by Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and hepatitis, ionising and ultraviolet radiation are other risk factors which are either avoidable or modifiable. Almost 9 out of 10 lung cancers are due to smoking or second-hand smoke. Tobacco use is the most common cause of cancer and almost 22 per cent of all deaths due to cancer are attributable to tobacco use (Lancet, 2016). Smoking causes 16 different types of cancer. Every time we smoke, some 7,000 different chemicals enter into lungs and spread to other parts of the body among which 69 are known carcinogens. Infections such as hepatitis and HPV are responsible for about 25 per cent of cancer cases in low and middle-income countries (WHO, 2018).

Almost up to half (30-50 per cent) of

cancers can be prevented by lifestyle modifications and/or by avoiding preventable risk factors. The prevention of certain cancers is simple while others require a complex approach. The avoidance of exposure to a potential cause is the easiest approach. Quitting smoking (or better never start) tops the list of avoidable exposure. Avoiding excess sunlight or reducing exposure to sunlight by using sunscreen, avoiding asbestos exposure, arsenic exposure, and other known carcinogens such as certain pesticides can reduce the occurrence of cancer. Chemical workers, X-ray technicians and workers with ionising radiation should use protective equipment and also follow safety protocols. Although there has been no evidence that the use of cell phones has something to do with cancer, it is advised to use them with an earpiece or make as few cell phone

calls as possible. There are vaccines available for Hepatitis B which is implicated for liver cancer and HPV which is responsible for about 70 per cent of cervical cancer (WebMD, 2018). The treatments of cancer include chemotherapy, radiotherapy or surgery and many times combination of the two. Immunotherapy has some promises in recent studies.

Prevention

There are huge disparities in treatment facility available for cancer. More than 90 per cent of high-income countries have facilities for the treatment and management of cancer, whereas, only 30 per cent of low-income countries have such facilities. Another important aspect of cancer management is an early diagnosis. Cancer diagnosed early will have a high chance of cure.

The vaccine against HPV and hepatitis can save at least a million cancer cases yearly (Plummer, 2016). The population-based screening of breast and cervical cancer will help detect those cancers early and treatment at the initial stage results in a better outcome.

The large percentages (77 per cent) of the Nepali family still rely on traditional fuels such as firewood and cow dung for cooking. Indoor air pollution from biomass causes a significant burden of cancers along with acute respiratory illnesses (ARIs) among children and chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases (COPD) in adults. Tackling outdoor as well as indoor pollution, although, challenging is possible by encouraging electrical vehicles and using smokeless stoves as well as using clean energy such as biogas. It has been estimated that within a few years, the country will have surplus hydroelectricity as well as almost complete electrification in households throughout the country. Every household should be encouraged to use electricity for cooking.

There are two specialised public cancer hospitals in Bhaktapur and Bharatpur. There are already two cancer hospitals in the private sector in Kathmandu and Bhaktapur. One new private cancer hospital is coming up in State 1. Few tertiary care centres and medical colleges have cancer treatment facilities. Currently, the government provides Rs. 100,000 to cancer patients from poor and impoverished families and working out plans to increase the amount to Rs. 500,000 and (Department of Health Services, 2018). The Nepal Health Research Council (NHRC) has launched a population-based cancer registry to collect data on the burden of cancers across the country which will help the government to formulate necessary policy. Lastly, effective preventive measures combined with better treatment facilities will help the country fight the burden of cancer in the coming days.

(Prof. Lohani is the Founder Academic Director of Nobel College/ Hospital and can be reached at lohaniis@gmail.com)

LETTERS

Xi's Visit Furthers Nepal-China Ties

I am writing this in reference to an article entitled "Historic High Level Visit", which appeared in The Rising Nepal on October 12.

Author Navin Subedi has appropriately termed Chinese President Xi Jinping's State visit to Nepal as historic.

Xi, as the Head of State of China, arrived in Kathmandu on Saturday (October 12) for a two-day visit following a gap of 23 years. It is needless to say that China has elevated her position to the world's second largest economy after the United States.

With her charismatic leadership, China has been able to make big strides in the economic and technological spheres.

Having excellent relations with most of the neighbours and other nations globally, China is poised to emerge as the world's largest economy

in the future. It is a matter of pride for Nepal and her people that our friendly neighbour has come a long way in the field of economic advancement. As a participant of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) adopted by our northern neighbour, Nepal also stands to reap benefit from this significant connectivity project.

During Xi's visit, the two friendly nations are going to sign numerous agreements, including the Trans-Himalayan Multi-dimensional Connectivity Network. These will be the major achievements for us.

The visit is not only going to be a milestone for consolidating the political and diplomatic relations but also boosting the bilateral ties at cultural and people-to-people levels.

Asira Khanal  
Naxal, Kathmandu

50 Years Ago

October 13, 1969

High, Middle Schools Opened

The high and middle schools of Bhaktapur reopened from today, reports RSS.

Those schools were closed because of the spread of cholera some days back.

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TAILPIECE

Jim and Mary were both patients in a mental hospital. One day while they were walking past the hospital swimming pool, Jim suddenly jumped into the deep end. He sank to the bottom and stayed there. Mary promptly jumped in to save him. She swam to the bottom and pulled Jim out.

When the medical director became aware of Mary's heroic act, he immediately ordered her to be discharged from the hospital as he now considered her to be mentally stable.

When he went to tell Mary the news, he said, "Mary, I have good news and bad news. The good news is you're being discharged because you were able to jump in and save the life of another patient. I think you've regained your senses. The bad news is Jim, the patient you saved, hung himself with his bathrobe belt in the bathroom. I am so sorry, but he's dead."

Mary replied, "He didn't hang himself, I put him there to dry."





Former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch arrives on Capitol Hill, Friday, in Washington. (Photo: AP)

# ‘India–China differences are manageable’

AP  
Mamallapuram, India, Oct. 12

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi told visiting Chinese President Xi Jinping on Saturday that relations between their countries have attained stability and momentum in the past year, and that it should enable them to manage their differences and avoid disputes.

The two leaders avoided the vexed Kashmir dispute from clouding their summit in the seaside temple town of Mamallapuram. Modi said both countries agreed to be sensitive to each other's concerns as they held delegation-level talks.

Modi and Xi were meeting at a time of tensions over Beijing's support for Pakistan, India's archrival, in opposing New Delhi's downgrading of Kashmir's semi-autonomy and continuing restrictions in the disputed region.

Indian Foreign Secretary Vijay

Gokhale told reporters that "this issue was not raised and discussed," but that Xi apprised Modi of Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan's visit to Beijing earlier in the week.

"India-China relations are not predicated to a single issue," Gokhale said, adding that the latest developments in Kashmir were an internal matter of India.

Without going into details, Xi said in his opening remarks at the delegation-level talks that he had taken part in candid and in-depth discussions with Modi on various issues since his arrival Friday.

Gokhale said the two countries decided to set up a group at the finance ministers' level to discuss trade and investment issues, especially India facing a whopping \$63 billion trade deficit with China.

According to India's Commerce Ministry, India's exports to China amounted to \$13.33 billion in the 2018 financial year,

compared with imports of \$76.38 billion.

Xi and Modi met over dinner for more than two hours on Friday after the Indian prime minister took the Chinese president around an ancient temple and some other monuments that are part of UNESCO's world heritage sites in Mamallapuram.

Besides emphasizing the expansion of trade and investment, Modi and Xi resolved to work together in facing the challenges of radicalization and terrorism, Gokhale said.

There was an acknowledgement that both India and China were "very complex and very diverse countries," and that both will work together so that radicalization and terrorism does not affect their multicultural, multiethnic and multireligious societies, Gokhale said. He did not give details.

Xi arrived in India two days after hosting Pakistani Prime Minister Khan in Beijing.



Chinese President Xi Jinping is received upon arrival in Chennai, India, Friday. (Photo: AP)



A man on a scooter watches as surging waves hit against the breakwater as Typhoon Hagibis approaches a port in Kumano, Mie Prefecture, Japan, Saturday. (Photo: AP)

## Heavy rain, winds lash Tokyo

AP  
Fujisawa, Japan, Oct. 12

A heavy downpour and strong winds pounded Tokyo and surrounding areas on Saturday as a powerful typhoon forecast to be Japan's worst in six decades made landfall southwest of Tokyo, with streets, beaches and train stations deserted.

Store shelves were bare after people stocked up on water and food ahead of Typhoon Hagibis. The Japan Meteorological Agency warned of dangerously heavy rainfall in Tokyo and surrounding prefectures, including Gunma, Saitama and Kanagawa.

An earthquake shook the area drenched by the rainfall shortly before the typhoon made landfall in Shizuoka prefecture on Saturday evening. The U.S. Geological Survey said the magnitude 5.3 quake was centered in the ocean off the coast of Chiba, near Tokyo, and was fairly deep, at 59.5 kilometers (37 miles). Deep quakes tend to cause less damage than shallow ones.

"Be ready for rainfall of the kind that you have never experienced," said meteorological agency official Yasushi Kajihara, adding that areas usually safe from disasters may prove vulnerable.

"Take all measures necessary to save your life," he said.

Kajihara said people who live near rivers must take shelter on the second floor or higher of any sturdy building if an officially designated evacuation center wasn't easily accessible. He also expressed fears that disaster may have already struck in some areas.

Hagibis, which means "speed" in Filipino, was advancing north-northwestward with maximum sustained winds of 162 kilometers (100 miles) per hour, according to the meteorological agency.

The storm brought heavy rainfall in wide areas of Japan all day ahead of its landfall, including in Shizuoka and Mie prefectures, southwest of Tokyo, as well as Chiba to the north, which saw power outages and damaged homes in a typhoon last month.

Under gloomy skies, a tornado ripped through Chiba on Saturday, overturning a car in the city of Ichihara and killing a man inside the vehicle, city official Tatsuya Sakamaki said. Five people were injured when the tornado ripped through a house. Their injuries were not life-threatening, Sakamaki said.

The heavy rain caused rivers to swell, flipped anchored boats and whipped up sea waters in a dangerous surge along the coast, flooding some residential neighborhoods and leaving people to wade in ankle-deep waters and cars floating.

## 1<sup>st</sup> human to walk in space Leonov dies

AP  
Moscow, Oct. 12

Alexei Leonov, the legendary Soviet cosmonaut who became the first human to walk in space 54 years ago — and who nearly didn't make it back into his space capsule — has died in Moscow at 85. The Russian space agency Roscosmos made the announcement on its website Friday but gave no cause for his death. Leonov had health issues for several years, according to Russia media.

Showing just how much of a space pioneer Leonov was, NASA broke into its live televised coverage of a spacewalk by two Americans outside the International Space Station to report Leonov's death.

## Turkey captures Syria border town

AP  
Ceylanpinar, Turkey, Oct. 12

Turkish forces captured a key Syrian border town under heavy bombardment Saturday, the Turkish military and a Syrian war monitor said, as Turkey's offensive against Syrian Kurdish fighters pressed into its fourth day with little sign of relenting despite mounting international criticism.

Turkish troops entered central Ras al-Ayn according to Turkey's Defense Ministry, marking the most significant gain since the invasion began Wednesday.

The ministry tweeted: "Ras al-Ayn's residential center has been taken under control through the successful operations in the east of Euphrates" river.

An Associated Press journalist across the border heard the sound of

sporadic clashes as Turkish howitzers struck the town and Turkish jets screeched overhead.

Syrian Kurdish forces appeared to be holding out in some areas of the town.

The Kurdish Syrian Democratic Forces released two videos said to be from inside Ras al-Ayn, showing fighters saying that it is Saturday and they are still there.

The fighting was ongoing as the Kurdish fighters sought to reverse the Turkish advance into Ras Al-Ayn, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

The push deeper into northern Syria by Turkish troops came days after U.S. President Donald Trump cleared the way for Turkey's air and ground invasion, pulling back U.S. forces from the area and saying he wanted to stop getting involved with

"endless wars."

Trump's decision drew swift bipartisan criticism that he was endangering regional stability and risking the lives of Syrian Kurdish allies who brought down the Islamic State group in Syria.

The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces was the main U.S. ally in the fight against the Islamic State group and had lost 11,000 fighters in the nearly five-year battle against the extremists.

Earlier in the day, Turkish troops moved to seize control of key highways in northeastern Syria, the Turkish military and the Observatory said.

Turkey's state-run Anadolu news agency said that Turkey-backed Syrian opposition forces had taken control of the M-4 highway that connects the towns of Manbij and Qamishli.

## Ex-Ukraine envoy testifies Trump pushed to oust her

AP  
Washington, Oct. 12

Testifying in defiance of President Donald Trump's ban, former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch told House impeachment investigators Friday that Trump himself had pressured the State Department to oust her from her post and get her out of the country.

Yovanovitch told lawmakers investigating Trump's dealings with Ukraine that there was a "concerted campaign" against her based on "unfounded and false claims by people with clearly questionable motives."

The diplomat was recalled from Kyiv as Rudy Giuliani — who is Trump's personal attorney and has no official role in the U.S. government — pressed Ukrainian officials to

investigate baseless corruption allegations against Democrat Joe Biden and his son Hunter, who was involved with a gas company there.

Yovanovitch testified behind closed doors Friday for more than nine hours as part of the House Democrats' impeachment investigation. Her prepared remarks were obtained by The Associated Press. She left without answering questions.

New York Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, a Democrat, said Yovanovitch occasionally had to leave the room because she was overcome with emotion as she was "recounting how she was thrown to the wolves" in Ukraine.

"It is clear to me that she was fired because she was a thorn in the side of those who sought to use the Ukrainian government for their

own political and financial gain - and that includes President Trump," Maloney said.

Lawmakers leaving the meeting would not provide specifics from the confidential deposition. But they indicated that Yovanovitch was providing information that would help with the impeachment inquiry.

"It was compelling, it was impactful, it was powerful and I just feel grateful for the opportunity to have received that information," said Democratic Rep. Denny Heck, who flew in from Washington state for the interview. He said the eight hours he was there "went like a New York second."

Yovanovitch "set a very powerful, courageous example," said Democratic Rep. Tom Malinowski of New Jersey.

## Deadly protests set stage for Iran, US tug-of-war over Iraq

AFF  
Baghdad, Oct. 12

Iraq's deadliest wave of protests since the 2003 ouster of dictator Saddam Hussein has made the country vulnerable to a battle for influence between its two main competing allies, the United States and Iran, analysts say.

The anti-government protests that erupted on October 1 echoed the demands that young Iraqis have made over recent years.

But the demonstrations played out differently this time, as tensions spiralled

between the US and Iran.

"Without this context, Iran would not have intervened," Iraqi political analyst Munqith Dagher said.

Tehran denounced the week of demonstrations that shook Baghdad and southern Iraq as a "conspiracy" that "failed".

This response cost Iran "a lot of credit and support in Iraq, especially among Shiites," said Dagher.

"But it sacrificed that in order to maintain the system in place in Iraq and to guard the country as an asset in negotiations with the United States."

The wave of unrest left more than 100 people dead, mostly protesters, and put Prime Minister Adel Abdel Mahdi in a weaker position than ever.



Protesters burnt tyres as they held huge rallies demanding a complete overhaul of the political system. (Photo: AFP)

Even before this Abdel Mahdi headed an unwieldy government. The coalition includes Shiite populist cleric Moqtada al-Sadr -- who won the most seats in the last parliamentary elections -- and Fatah, the political arm of Hashed al-Shaabi, the paramilitary force dominated by pro-Iran groups.

As protests peaked, Sadr called for the government he helped form to resign.

The Hashed took the opposite position, saying it was ready to crush the "conspiracy" aiming to bring down the government.

Since then state

institutions have been paralysed by division, effectively preventing concrete responses to protester demands for jobs, services and ending corruption.

Caught in the middle, Abdel Mahdi is "even weaker and more vulnerable to pressure from the largest political blocs," said Maria Fantappie, an International Crisis Group Iraq analyst.

This could favour Tehran, she said, as "the prime minister will be increasingly dependent on Iran's ally Fatah, which has stood by his side during the crisis".

### PRISM

#### Big avocado earns Hawaii family Guinness World Records honour

Wailuku, Hawaii: A Hawaii family has won a place with the Guinness World Records for the world's heaviest avocado.

The Pokini family from the island of Maui received the Guinness certificate this week for the avocado weighing 5.6 pounds (2.54 kilograms), The Maui News reported.

The average avocado weighs about 6 ounces (170 grams), according to Guinness officials.

The Pokini family's avocado tree is more than 10 years old and 20 feet (6.1 meters) tall. Mark Pokini planted it when his son was born, using a seed from his brother-in-law's tree on Oahu island, he said.

Mark and Juliane Pokini and their son, Loihi, applied in December for the Guinness recognition involving a tough verification process by the company known as the chronicler of the world's record achievements.

#### Dog lost since 2007 found over 1K miles away in Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh: A toy fox terrier that disappeared from its family's south Florida home in 2007 was found this week over a thousand miles away in Pittsburgh and reunited with its owner.

The 14-year-old named Dutchess was found hungry, shivering and in serious need of a nail trim under a shed on Monday, according to Humane Animal Rescue.

The property owner took the dog to a Humane Animal Rescue location, where staffers were able to locate a microchip and trace the dog back to its owners in Boca Raton, Florida.

The dog's owner, Kathryn Strang, drove all the way to Pittsburgh for an emotional reunion with Dutchess.

Boca Raton, Florida, is about 1,130 miles (1818.74 kilometers) from Pittsburgh.

Strang said she couldn't believe it when she got the call that her dog had been found after all these years. (AP)

### Today in History

AD 54 – Roman emperor Claudius dies from poisoning under mysterious circumstances.

1884 – The International Meridian Conference establishes the meridian of the Greenwich Observatory as the prime meridian.

1908 – Margaret Travers Symons bursts into the UK parliament and became the first woman to speak there.

1923 – Ankara becomes the capital of Turkey.

2016 – The Maldives announces its decision to withdraw from the Commonwealth of Nations.

Source: www.wikipedia.org



# MISCELLANY

A view of decorated  
Kathmandu for Chinese  
President Xi Jinping's visit.  
(Photo: TRN)



## People enthusiastically line up to welcome Chinese President



By Manjima Dhakal  
Kathmandu, Oct. 12

A large number of general people enthusiastically queued on the right side of the Araniko Highway from Tinkune to Maitighar for hours to welcome Chinese President Xi Jinping upon his arrival in Kathmandu on Saturday.

Although the government had formally instructed all the civil servants to be present on the road beginning from Maitighar to the airport to welcome the Chinese President, a huge number of commoners spontaneously appeared on the road to welcome the high level guest from the northern neighbour. The long queue of the people

A few of the people, who were curiously standing in the queue to see the Chinese President, shared their happiness for getting an opportunity to welcome Xi.

was seen on the right side of the road up to Kalimati.

A few of the people, who were curiously standing in the queue to see the Chinese President, shared their happiness for getting an opportunity to welcome Xi as well as their expectations from the visit with *The Rising Nepal*.

Ganga Devi Maharjan, a senior citizen of Sorhakhutte, who walked all the way to Babar Mahal from Sorhakhutte with her husband, to welcome president Xi was seen fluttering the flags of Nepal and China.

Maharjan said that they arrived to see how the Chinese President was and they wanted to welcome him in their city.

Aaditya Raj Ojha, a seven grader, who had arrived in Bijuli Bazaar with his father, to welcome President Xi, said that he was lucky to get an opportunity to welcome a powerful leader like Chinese President Xi in Nepal.

He said that the visit of the Chinese President would be a big help to connect Nepal and China by train.

Shalik Ram Neupane, who had arrived in Babar Mahal from Sanepa with his wife to look the ceremony, said the visit of President Xi would further cement the mutual relations between Nepal and China. "Xi's Nepal visit will motivate our leaders to develop Nepal like Xi is doing in China," he added.

Tulasha Bhandari, a resident of Babar Mahal, said the changed and beautified face of Kathmandu should remain the same for a long time, not only during Xi's visit.

"But these clean and beautified roads will not remain the same after President Xi leaves Kathmandu," Bhandari added.

Murari Prasad Poudel of Kalanki wanted to see Nepal as developed as China.

"The Chinese President may support Nepal for achieving its target of prosperous Nepal," he added.

Many Nepalese had arrived at Babar Mahal to welcome the Chinese President with curiosity, happiness and similar expectation.

### Kojagrat Purnima today

RSS  
Kathmandu, Oct. 13

Nepali Hindus are observing the Kojagrat Poornima (full moon day) today as part of the final day of the 15-day Bada Dashain festival by worshipping and paying homage to Mahalaxmi, the goddess of wealth and prosperity.

The Bada Dashain festival formally ends today with the marking of the Kojagrat Poornima--devotees offering worships to Mahalaxmi at their homes in the evening, and keeping vigil the whole night.

There is a belief that the goddess Mahalaxmi takes a trip around the world on the night of Kojagrat Poornima 'to check as to who is observing the vigil on this particular night'. As per this belief, the goddess of wealth blesses the people who are found observing the overnight vigil, says Nepal Calendar Determination Committee Chairperson Prof Dr Ramchandra Gautam.

Since the ritual of giving and receiving Tika and Jamara for the Dashain festival also concludes on this day, the Jamara that is sprouted and anointed at the Dashainghar and Kot on the day of Ghatasthapana is disposed of as per the religious tradition.

People also perform worship at the Swoyambhu Chaitya and observe the night vigil by lighting the Mahadeep lamp.

### Nepali TikTok celebrity invites all Chinese to visit his country

Xinhua  
Kathmandu, Oct. 12

Anyone hearing Amit Baniya's Mandarin would think the 23-year-old young man is Chinese. He knows almost all the buzzwords on the Chinese social media and is also an expert in using trending words and phrases to attract TikTok fans.

Baniya shares the same Mandarin name with renowned Kung Fu master Bruce Lee, Li Xiaolong, which has helped him become even more popular on China's leading video app TikTok. While Baniya is not a Kung Fu master like Bruce Lee, his skills as a tour guide and a TikTok star give him a chance to beat Bruce Lee on modern social media.

"I started learning Chinese when I was around 14. It was as if it had been predestined. I accompanied my friend to a language school where he was learning Chinese. I enjoyed the environment and learning the language, so I stuck with it," Baniya told Xinhua in Thamel, a haven for foreign visitors in Kathmandu.

Baniya's first job was giving tourists henna tattoos. "I'm good at it," said Baniya in fluent Chinese. "But I didn't have enough business every day. I thought that if I could speak more foreign languages, it would help me gain more clients, and I could also be a tour guide for them."

In a clip on TikTok, Baniya called out to a Chinese visitor in Mandarin. "Hi, big brother. What can I do for you? I can do everything, interpreter, tour guide and even body guard. Brother, you need to give me a chance. I'm a local."

"How could you speak Chinese?" asked the visitor, who immediately recognized him as TikTok's "Nepali Li Xiaolong."



Nepali Army presenting Guard of Honour to visiting Chinese President Xi Jinping at TIA, Kathmandu, Saturday.

(Photo: TRN)

## Anatomy of the phone call now imperiling Trump's presidency

AP  
Washington, Oct. 12

There were dozens of ears listening to President Donald Trump's 30-minute phone call with the leader of Ukraine that is at the center of a House impeachment inquiry, and as many eyes that saw what he said.

White House staffers, working in the secure, soundproof Situation Room in the West Wing basement, listened in and chronicled the conversation. National Security Council personnel edited a memo written about the call. White House lawyers, according to a government whistleblower, directed that the memo be uploaded into a highly restricted classified computer network. And there were the staffers

whose keystrokes on a computer made that happen.

They represent a universe of people, little known outside their vital circle of national security officials, who can either support or disavow the whistleblower's account. Their roles could well become more public as the impeachment investigation unfolds and Congress seeks additional witnesses.

Some staffers involved with the call still work at the White House; others have left. But what was thought to be a routine conversation with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy turned into anything but that, when Trump asked him to investigate Ukraine's involvement in the 2016 presidential election and the activities of Democratic political rival Joe Biden and his son Hunter.

By the time staffers in the Situation Room got the president of Ukraine on the phone at 9:03 a.m., Trump had just finished firing off tweets claiming complete vindication from former special counsel Robert Mueller's congressional testimony the day before about the Russia investigation.

On the call, Trump was first to speak. He showered the 41-year-old Ukrainian, a novice politician and former comedian, with praise following his party's victory in parliamentary elections. Zelenskyy chatted about how he wanted to "drain the swamp" in Kyiv and how he wished the European Union would provide more financial support. He told Trump that Ukraine was ready to buy more Javelin anti-tank missiles from the United States.

The next 10 words that came out of Trump's mouth — "I would like you to do us a favor, though" — are what triggered the House impeachment inquiry that has imperiled his presidency.

Trump asked Zelenskyy to work with Trump's personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani and Attorney General William Barr to look into Biden and his son, who served on the board of a Ukrainian gas company.

Trump says it was an innocent, "perfect" call. But some White House staffers, worried that Trump seemed to be asking Ukraine for dirt on Biden, sounded alarms. They suggested the memorandum of the call — "telcon" for short — be transferred into a restricted server, usually reserved for documents about covert operations.



Visiting President Xi Jinping in a carcade flanked by outriders in Kathmandu, Saturday.

(Photo: Sagar Basnet/TRN)

### Grand reception...

16:45 in the afternoon. A battalion of Nepal Army presented a guard of honour to the visiting guest, and various cultural shows, including exhibits from all seven States, were presented at the airport and along the route to Soaltee Hotel.

Thousands people stood by the road and waved the national flags of Nepal and China to welcome the Chinese President.

The visit by a Chinese president is taking place in an interval of 23 years. Earlier, Jiang Zemin had visited Nepal in 1996. Nepal long wanted to have top level Chinese visit, especially in an effort to diversify its sickening international trade and obtain the latter's expertise and economic support in infrastructure, primarily connectivity and energy.

The country wants cross-border road and railway connectivity with China, more Chinese investment and tourists to make the Visit Nepal Year 2020 a success in the short term and to achieve the national aspiration of 'Prosperous Nepal, happy Nepali'.

### Arab League calls for UN measures against Turkey

AP  
Akcakale, Oct. 12

The Arab League is calling for the United Nations Security Council to take measures to force Turkey to halt its military offensive in Syria and "immediately" withdraw its forces from the Arab country.

A communique after the meeting of Arab foreign ministers on Saturday also urged the Security Council to suspend military and intelligence support that could help Turkey's

offensive. The communique says Arab countries reject Turkey's attempts to impose "demographic changes" in Syria by a so-called "safe zone."

It says Arab countries should consider taking "diplomatic, economic, investment, cultural measures ... to confront the Turkish aggression." Two countries, Qatar and Somalia, expressed reservations about the communique. Qatar has backed Turkey's offensive.

The Arab League's meeting

came as Turkey's offensive against Syrian Kurdish fighters entered its fourth day.

Thousands of people have demonstrated in Paris in support of Kurds being targeted by Turkish forces in Syria.

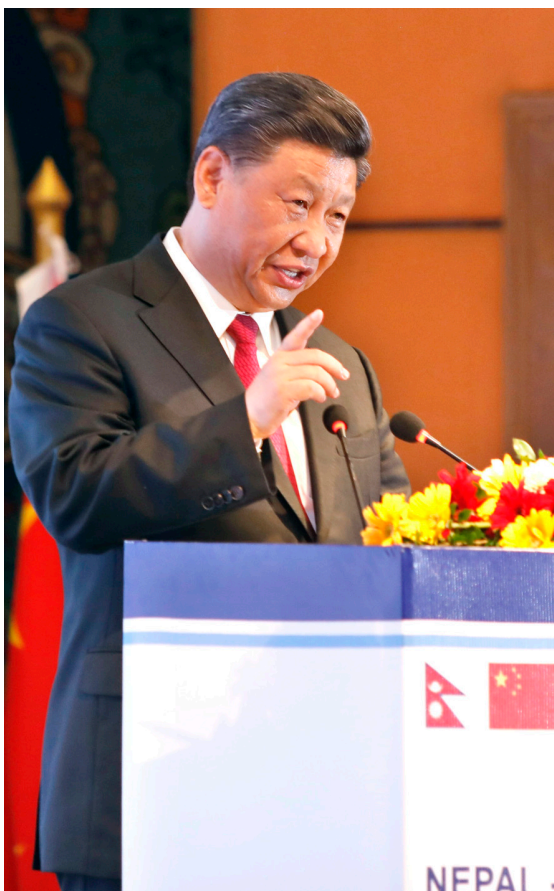
Protesters warned that the offensive could allow Islamic State group extremists to resurge. Kurdish forces being targeted by Turkey this week were crucial to the international campaign against IS fighters, who orchestrated several deadly attacks against France.



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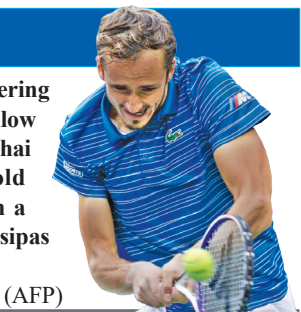
## President Xi receives grand welcome in Kathmandu



Photos : Shekhar, Rajendra, Ramesh, Kabita, Bikash, Sujana, Sagar, CSK/TRN



Daniil Medvedev reached a staggering ninth final this year as he defeated fellow rising star Stefanos Tsitsipas at the Shanghai Masters on Saturday. The 23-year-old Medvedev, who has lifted three titles in a breakthrough 2019, beat Greece's Tsitsipas 7-6 (7/5), 7-5.



(AFP)

# Czechs stun England; France, Portugal win

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London, Oct. 12

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Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo, center, reacts with his teammate Bernardo Silva as Luxembourg's Lars Gerson runs during the Euro 2020 group B qualifying soccer match in Lisbon, Friday. (Photo:AP)

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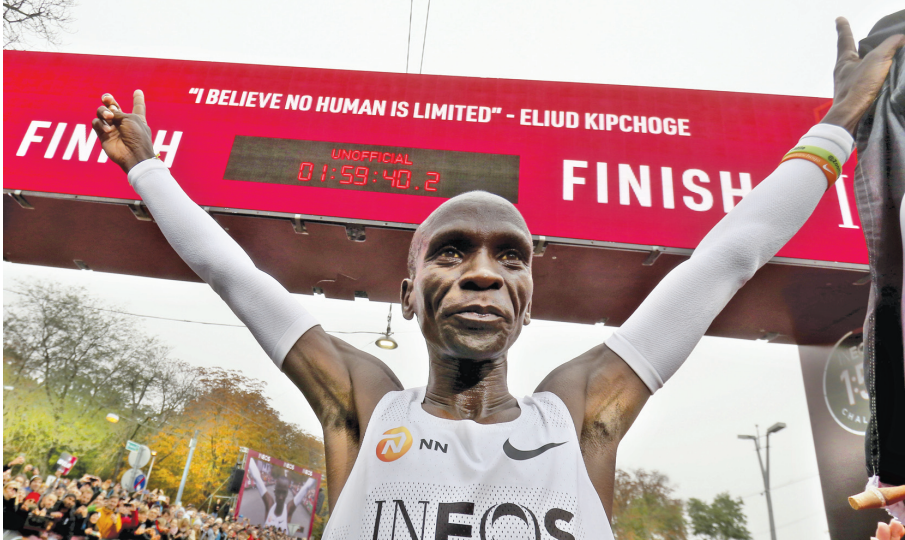
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Andorra made history of its own in Group H with a 1-0 win over Moldova, the first time the tiny mountainous nation had avoided defeat in 57 European qualifiers.

Midfielder Marc Vales headed in the Andorran goal in the 63rd after Moldova had been reduced to 10 men.

Andorra, with fewer than 80,000 residents nestled in the Pyrenees between Spain and France, had lost all 56 of its previous games in European qualifying.

# Kipchoge busts mythical two-hour marathon barrier



AFP  
Vienna, Oct. 12

Kenya's Eliud Kipchoge on Saturday made history, busting the mythical two-hour barrier for the marathon on a specially prepared course in a huge Vienna park.

With an unofficial time of 1hr 59min 40.2sec, the Olympic champion became the first ever to run a marathon in under two hours in the Prater park with the course readied to make it as even as possible.

The 34-year-old already holds the men's world record for the distance with a time of 2hr 01min 39sec, which he set in the flat Berlin marathon on September 16, 2018.

But accompanied by a posse of 41 pacemakers and a car in front of them setting the pace, Kipchoge bested that mark, making good on a failed attempt two years ago in Monza, Italy.

"I am the first man - I want to inspire many people, that no human is limited," said the history-making Kipchoge.

"We can make this world a beautiful world and a peaceful world. My wife and three children, I am happy for them to come and

witness history." Maintaining a very regular pace at around 2:50 minutes per kilometre, he passed the finish line gesturing and smiling.

He had been 11 seconds in advance at mid-race as fans lining the course, many waving Kenyan flags, loudly cheered him on.

### Surfaces evened out

Because of the way the run was set up and paced the International Association of Athletics Federations will not validate the time as a world record.

The running surface had been partly retarred and readied with other features such as a banked corner that could save time and avoid injury.

Pacemakers took turns to support him throughout the 42.195-kilometre (26.219-miles) race. They included 1,500-metre Olympic champion Matthew Centrowitz and former world champion Bernard Lagat.

The course included a 4.3 kilometre-long straight alley, which the Kenyan ran up and down several times amid dry but foggy weather.

"The course is extremely good. I'm happy with the course," Kipchoge, whose

family has accompanied him to Vienna, said earlier this week.

Kipchoge already tried in May 2017 to break the two-hour barrier, running on the Monza National Autodrome racing circuit in Italy, failing narrowly in 2hr 00min 25sec. But this time he said before the race that he was mentally stronger and more confident.

The course had been prepared so that it should take Kipchoge just about 4.5 seconds more than on a computer-simulated completely flat and straight path, according to analysis by sports experts at Vienna University.

In total, he only had to descend 26 metres in altitude and climb 12 metres, the experts said.

The world marathon record has, for the past 16 years, been contested uniquely between athletes from Kenya and Ethiopia. The two nations are also fierce rivals for distance medals on the track.

Kipchoge's record was almost beaten last month in the Berlin marathon by Ethiopia's Kenenisa Bekele, who ran 2:01.41, just two seconds short of the official world mark.

# India dismiss SA for 275

AFP  
Pune, Oct. 10

India bowled out South Africa for 275 despite a battling half-century by ailing tailender Keshav Maharaj in the second Test on Saturday. Maharaj, who hit a career-best 72 with an injured shoulder, and Vernon Philander, unbeaten on 44, put on 109 for the ninth wicket to frustrate the Indian bowlers in Pune.

Ravichandran Ashwin broke the stand by taking number 10 Maharaj in the final overs and then claimed last man Kagiso Rabada, for two, to wrap up the innings with figures of 4-69.

India, who scored 601-5 declared, have until the start of play on Sunday to decide whether to enforce the follow-on. South Africa still trail India by 326 runs.

The Proteas, who resumed on 36-3, slipped to 162-8 after skipper Faf du Plessis fell for 64 to Ashwin's off spin. Maharaj, who injured his shoulder while fielding on Friday and went off the pitch for scans, came out to join Philander to make a last stand. Maharaj passed his previous Test best of 45 with a boundary off Ashwin and completed his fifty to an ovation from the crowd.

Philander, a pace-bowling all-rounder, also played a patient innings. He stayed on for 192 balls before running out of partners.

Fast bowler Mohammed Shami struck early to remove nightwatchman Anrich Nortje for three when he edged a delivery to Virat Kohli at fourth slip. Theunis de Bruyn was caught behind off Yadav for 30 as the tourists slipped to 53 for five.

Wicketkeeper-batsman Quinton de Kock put on a 75-run fourth wicket stand with du Plessis to offer some resistance before Ashwin's off spin bowled him for 31.

# Gorkhapatra Biratnagar Edition

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Multidimensional impact on tourism from President Xi's visit: P.2

चाडपर्व हाको साँस्कृतिक धरोहरहरु हुन्  
यिनीहरुको संरक्षण गरौं ।  
चाडपर्वको मागमा फजुल सर्व नगरी  
उत्पादनमूलक कार्यमा लगाऔं ।  
नेपाल सरकार  
सञ्चार तथा सूचना प्रविधि नखला  
सूचना तथा प्रसारण विभाग

## Grand reception for President Xi

Bhandari for Lumbini-Keyrung rail ◆ Xi assures land-linked Nepal



President Bidya Devi Bhandari receiving her Chinese counterpart, President Xi Jinping, at the Tribhuvan International Airport, Kathmandu, Saturday.

(Photo: Shekhar Chaulagain/TRN)

By Modnath Dhakal  
Kathmandu, Oct. 12

President of the People's Republic of China Xi Jinping, who arrived in Kathmandu on Saturday evening on a two-day State visit, said Nepal and China had nothing but friendship.

"We have model friendship in the world, and there is no issue between the two countries but friendship," he said while speaking at the State Banquet organised by President Bidya Devi Bhandari in his honour at Soaltee Hotel.

President Xi said that he and his Nepali counterpart Bhandari had agreed to develop relations, friendship and partnership that would help in development and prosperity for many generations to come.

He assured that more reliable and easier connectivity facility between the two countries would be constructed in the near future.

Maintaining that China would expedite the development of Trans-Himalayan Multi-

"I am hopeful that there will be more cooperation between Nepal and China at multilateral platforms," he said.

According to Xi, Buddhism has become a local religion in China, and many Chinese want to visit Nepal and Lumbini, and in future there will be more religious exchanges.

He also said that China was ever ready to conserve Sagarmatha region and support Nepal's genuine demands regarding the issue of climate change.

President Xi announced a support of 3.5 billion RMB to be provided between 2020 to 2022 for uplifting the living standard of the Nepali people.

President Bhandari, in her welcome remarks, appreciated China for its support in Nepal's development efforts and cooperation at the international platforms.

"Nepal and China have been standing together and extending cooperation in multilateral platform for peace, stability and development," she said.

Geographically Nepal and China are

ambition to become a middle-income country by 2030, it needs more foreign investment. The country wants Chinese investment in the productive sectors like infrastructure, energy and tourism, she said.

"The government will assure security to the investment made in Nepal," President Bhandari said.

She also said that Nepal expected support of the Chinese government in Visit Nepal Year 2020, conserving mountain ecology and combating the impact of climate change.

She informed President Xi that the government was holding an international forum 'Sagarmatha Sambad' and said Nepal expected high-level participation from China.

Nepal is organising 'Sagarmatha Sambad' – an international dialogue, in March 2020, and the main agenda of the first summit would be climate change.

As the global warming has created alarming situation in the mountains and plains equally, and the country wants to draw the attention to the climate change impacts on Himalayas, environment and people, the first Sambad will be focused on the same theme.

President Bidya Devi Bhandari on Saturday welcomed her Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping upon his arrival at the Tribhuvan International Airport.

Vice-President Nanda Bahadur Pun, Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli, Chairman of the National Assembly Ganesh Prasad Timilsina, Deputy Prime Ministers, Minister for Foreign Affairs Pradeep Kumar Gyawali, ministers, head of the constitutional bodies and other high-level government officials accompanied President Bhandari to welcome Chinese President Xi at the Tribhuvan International Airport.

President Bhandari had also introduced the DPMs and ministers to her Chinese counterpart.

Later in the evening, the two presidents held a bilateral meeting at Sheetal Niwas and deliberated on the issues of bilateral concerns and Nepal-China relations.

During the bilateral meeting, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Home Minister, Foreign Affairs Minister, Women, Children and Senior Citizens Minister, Minister for Water Supply and high level officials of Nepal and Chinese governments were present.

Leader of the main opposition party Nepali Congress Sher Bahadur Deuba met President Xi at Soaltee Hotel.

President Bhandari organised a state banquet in Xi's honour where he and Chinese delegation were served with typical Nepali delicacies.

The Air China plane carrying him from Chennai, India, landed at the TIA at about 6 PM.

See page 6



President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China and Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli raising a toast at the dinner hosted by President Bidya Devi Bhandari in Kathmandu.

(Photo: Bikash Dware/TRN)

Dimensional Connectivity infrastructure, he said, "We want to support Nepal in realising its dream to become a land-linked country from the landlocked country."

He announced that China will provide support in conducting the feasibility study of Keyrung-Kathmandu railway, upgrading the Arniko Highway and constructing Keyrung-Kathmandu tunnel way.

President Xi expressed his commitment to further support in the post-quake reconstruction, promoting Visit Nepal Year 2020, support education sector and urban development in the country.

He is happy that the leadership of both the countries together made it possible to develop and implement a new framework of friendship and plans.


close friends while history and culture have helped in developing cordial relations, she said. "At this juncture, Nepal wants to express its commitment to taking the bilateral relations to a newer height."

She reiterated Nepal's commitment to 'One China Policy' and not allowing any force to use Nepali land against China.

President Bhandari said that the land of Lord Buddha expected Chinese support in developing Lumbini as a centre of world peace, and infrastructure improvement for cross-border connectivity.

"Nepali people want to see Rasuwagadhi-Kathmandu-Lumbini railway connectivity being happened," she said.

According to her, since Nepal's internal resources are not sufficient to meet the




### Warm Welcome to President of People's Republic of China Xi Jinping to Nepal!

We believe this historic visit will raise Nepal-China  
friendly relations to a new height.

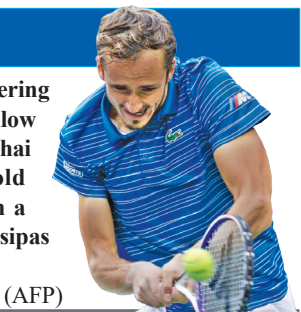
### 热烈欢迎

中华人民共和国主席习近平访问尼泊尔！  
相信这次具有历史意义的访问  
定将中尼友好关系提升到一个新的高度。

**ARNIKO SOCIETY**  
尼泊尔阿尼哥协会



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(AFP)

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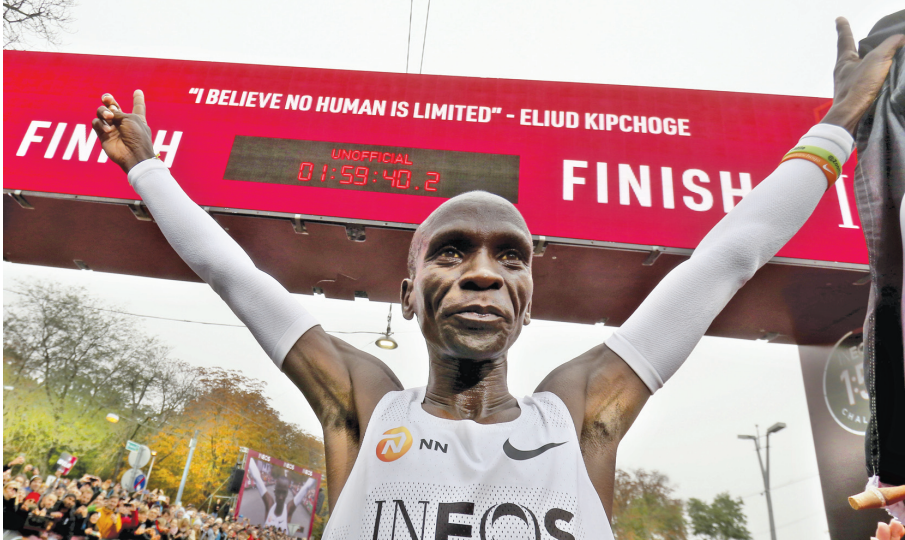
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With an unofficial time of 1hr 59min 40.2sec, the Olympic champion became the first ever to run a marathon in under two hours in the Prater park with the course readied to make it as even as possible.

The 34-year-old already holds the men's world record for the distance with a time of 2hr 01min 39sec, which he set in the flat Berlin marathon on September 16, 2018.

But accompanied by a posse of 41 pacemakers and a car in front of them setting the pace, Kipchoge bested that mark, making good on a failed attempt two years ago in Monza, Italy.

"I am the first man - I want to inspire many people, that no human is limited," said the history-making Kipchoge.

"We can make this world a beautiful world and a peaceful world. My wife and three children, I am happy for them to come and

witness history." Maintaining a very regular pace at around 2:50 minutes per kilometre, he passed the finish line gesturing and smiling.

He had been 11 seconds in advance at mid-race as fans lining the course, many waving Kenyan flags, loudly cheered him on.

### Surfaces evened out

Because of the way the run was set up and paced the International Association of Athletics Federations will not validate the time as a world record.

The running surface had been partly retarred and readied with other features such as a banked corner that could save time and avoid injury.

Pacemakers took turns to support him throughout the 42.195-kilometre (26.219-miles) race. They included 1,500-metre Olympic champion Matthew Centrowitz and former world champion Bernard Lagat.

The course included a 4.3 kilometre-long straight alley, which the Kenyan ran up and down several times amid dry but foggy weather.

"The course is extremely good. I'm happy with the course," Kipchoge, whose

family has accompanied him to Vienna, said earlier this week.

Kipchoge already tried in May 2017 to break the two-hour barrier, running on the Monza National Autodrome racing circuit in Italy, failing narrowly in 2hr 00min 25sec. But this time he said before the race that he was mentally stronger and more confident.

The course had been prepared so that it should take Kipchoge just about 4.5 seconds more than on a computer-simulated completely flat and straight path, according to analysis by sports experts at Vienna University.

In total, he only had to descend 26 metres in altitude and climb 12 metres, the experts said.

The world marathon record has, for the past 16 years, been contested uniquely between athletes from Kenya and Ethiopia. The two nations are also fierce rivals for distance medals on the track.

Kipchoge's record was almost beaten last month in the Berlin marathon by Ethiopia's Kenenisa Bekele, who ran 2:01.41, just two seconds short of the official world mark.

# India dismiss SA for 275

AFP  
Pune, Oct. 10

India bowled out South Africa for 275 despite a battling half-century by ailing tailender Keshav Maharaj in the second Test on Saturday. Maharaj, who hit a career-best 72 with an injured shoulder, and Vernon Philander, unbeaten on 44, put on 109 for the ninth wicket to frustrate the Indian bowlers in Pune.

Ravichandran Ashwin broke the stand by taking number 10 Maharaj in the final overs and then claimed last man Kagiso Rabada, for two, to wrap up the innings with figures of 4-69.

India, who scored 601-5 declared, have until the start of play on Sunday to decide whether to enforce the follow-on. South Africa still trail India by 326 runs.

The Proteas, who resumed on 36-3, slipped to 162-8 after skipper Faf du Plessis fell for 64 to Ashwin's off spin. Maharaj, who injured his shoulder while fielding on Friday and went off the pitch for scans, came out to join Philander to make a last stand. Maharaj passed his previous Test best of 45 with a boundary off Ashwin and completed his fifty to an ovation from the crowd.

Philander, a pace-bowling all-rounder, also played a patient innings. He stayed on for 192 balls before running out of partners.

Fast bowler Mohammed Shami struck early to remove nightwatchman Anrich Nortje for three when he edged a delivery to Virat Kohli at fourth slip. Theunis de Bruyn was caught behind off Yadav for 30 as the tourists slipped to 53 for five.

Wicketkeeper-batsman Quinton de Kock put on a 75-run fourth wicket stand with du Plessis to offer some resistance before Ashwin's off spin bowled him for 31.

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